

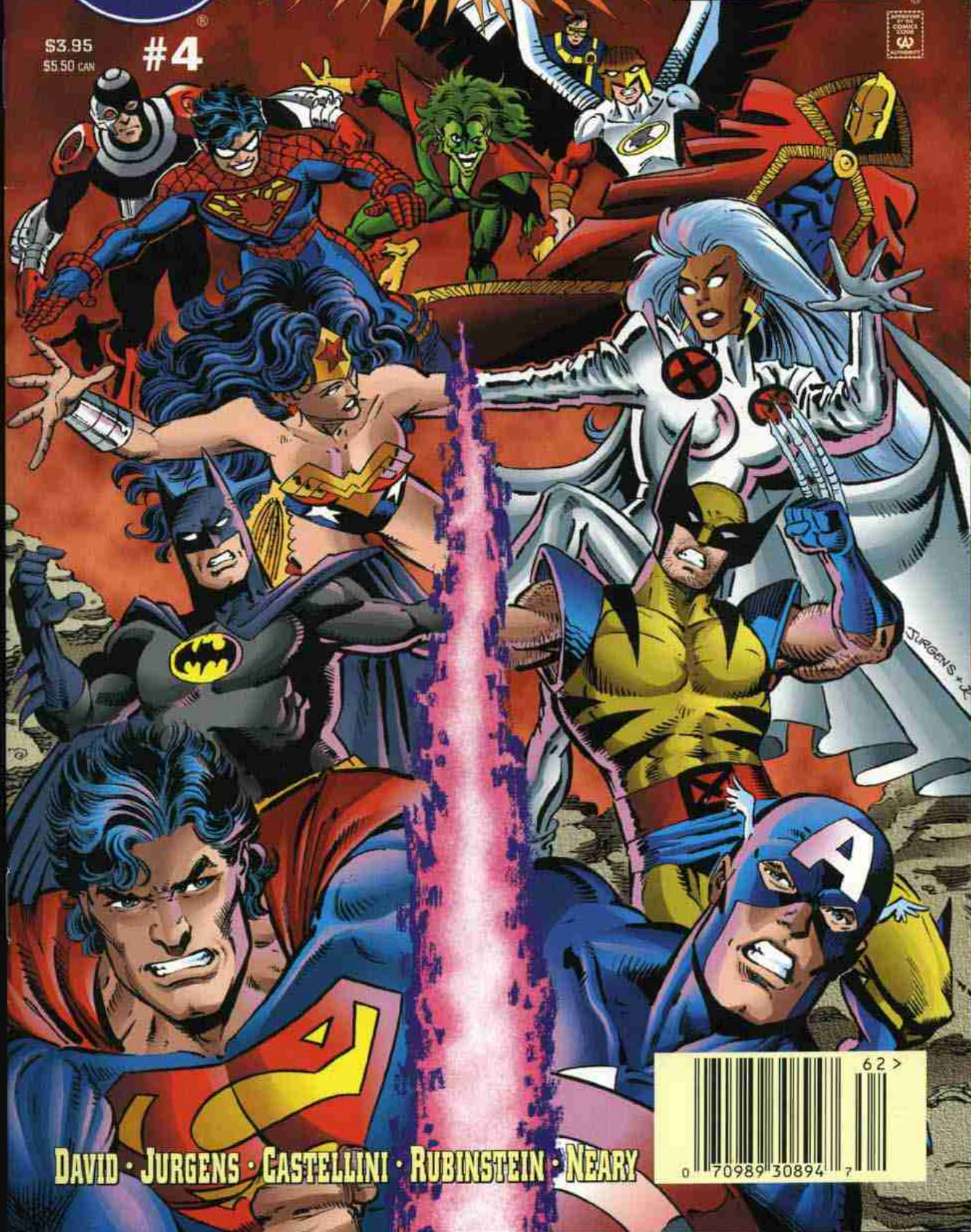
THE SHOWDOWN OF THE CENTURY!



VERSUS MARVEL COMICS

\$3.95
\$5.50 CAN

#4



DAVID · JURGENS · CASTELLINI · RUBINSTEIN · NEARY





"AMALGAM:

ANY COMBINATION OR
MIXTURE OF DIVERSE
ELEMENTS."

"HYENA:

ANY OF SEVERAL CARNIVOROUS
MAMMALS OF THE GENERA
HYENA OR XEOXUR OF AFRICA
OR ASIA, HAVING POWERFUL
JAWS, RELATIVELY SHORT HIND
LIMBS, AND COARSE HAIR."

"DARK CLAW..."

... DARK CLAW IS NOT IN THE "AMERICAN
HERITAGE DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH
LANGUAGE." HE IS UNIQUE AND
UNDEFINABLE..."

... AND MUCH
PREFERS IT
THAT WAY.



HYENA!
I'M WARNING
YOU--!

WELL,
NOW, THANKS
FOR THE WARN-
ING, DARK
MEAT! LUCKILY
FOR ME--

BOOM!

--WARNINGS
RUIN YOUR
ELEMENT OF
SURPRISE!

ESPECIALLY
WHEN IT COMES
TO GIVING YOU BACK
YOUR LITTLE EXPO-
SIVE TOYS!

CRASH!

CRASH!

YOU'LL
FIND WE STILL
HAVE A SURPRISE
OR TWO UP OUR
SLEEVES,
HYENA!

SUPER-SOLDIER!

"FEAR" I
CAN RELATE
TO.

I NEVER
QUITE GOT
THE HANG OF
"FUN."

ISN'T IT
FUN WHEN THEY
SHOUT YOUR NAME
IN FEAR?



THEY FIGHT
THEIR MEAN-
INGLESS
SKIRMISHES...



...ALL UN-
KNOWING OF
THE TRUE
WAR AROUND
THEM.



HE WAS
WRONG. THE
OLD GUARDIAN
KNOWS NOW
HE WAS
WRONG.

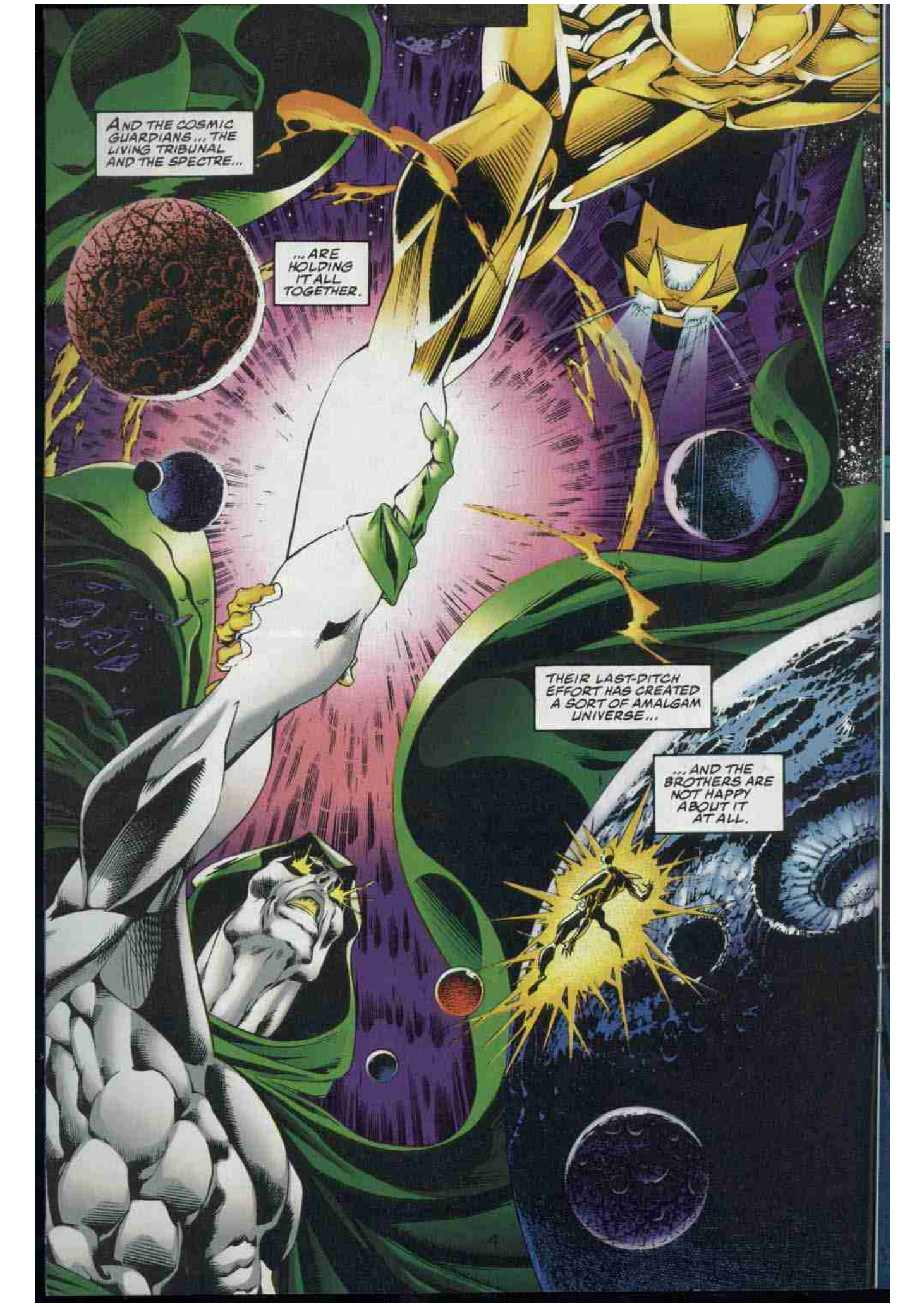


HE HAD THOUGHT
THE MERGING
WAS THE
DOING OF THE
BROTHERS.

IT
WAS
NOT.



AS A RESULT OF THE
WARS, ONE OF THE
UNIVERSES FACED
BEING TORN AWAY AND
HURLED INTO
OBLIVION...



AND THE COSMIC
GUARDIANS... THE
LIVING TRIBUNAL
AND THE SPECTRE...

... ARE
HOLDING
IT ALL
TOGETHER.

THEIR LAST-DITCH
EFFORT HAS CREATED
A SORT OF AMALGAM
UNIVERSE...

... AND THE
BROTHERS ARE
NOT HAPPY
ABOUT IT
AT ALL.





...WHERE AM I?!

HIS MIND THREATENS TO SHUT DOWN...

...AND THEN, ALMOST AS AN ACT OF SELF-PRESERVATION...

... HIS POWER KICKS IN... AND JUST LIKE THAT, ACCESS IS...

BACK! I MADE IT! I~

GEEZ! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?!

WITH ALL THE CONTESTS TO WORRY ABOUT, A BEAUTY CONTEST AIN'T ONE OF 'EM.

LISTEN FAST, KID: I PULLED FATE'S STRINGS TO GET SOLDIER AND CLAW NEARBY...

...WITH SOME HELP FROM SPEC AND THE TRIB...

...BUT NOW IT'S UP TO YOU. I'VE DONE ALMOST EVERYTHING I COULD.



BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M DOING! I'VE NO CONTROL OVER--!

WHEN I SAID I'D DONE "ALMOST" EVERYTHING... WELL, HERE'S THE REST.

'BYE, KID. BY THE WAY...



...MY NAME'S MORTY. GLAD WE MET.

WHAT THE DEVIL? AN EXPLOSION...

...BUT... SILENT?



KRASH!

AH! A POTENTIAL HOSTAGE!



HEY! SLIM!

MR. POTATO HEAD, LOOK OVER HERE!

BOY, I DON'T USUALLY HAVE TO WORK THIS HARD TO GET SOMEONE'S ATTENTION!



GO AWAY.

HUH? WHAT'S WITH THE LIGHTSHOW--?



AW, NUTS! DOES EVERYBODY IN THIS 'BURG HAVE SUPERPOW--?

YOU! WHERE THE HELL IS HYENA?



IT DOESN'T MATTER. NOTHING MATTERS.



IT MATTERS TO US, SON, BECAUSE WE'RE NOT THE TYPE TO LET CRIMINALS GET AWAY...

NO, YOU'RE NOT. YOU'RE NOT THAT TYPE. YOU'RE ARCHETYPES...

...AND I HIDE CRYSTAL SHARDS IN YOU... FRAGMENTS OF THE BROTHERS OF REALITY...



...THE ONLY LEFTOVERS FROM THE ORIGINAL UNIVERSES THAT CREATED YOU! IT'S WHAT STRANGEFATE WAS LOOKING FOR!



STOP! WHAT ARE YOU... DOING ?!?

YOU WANT TO KNOW ? OKAY...



"I'M GIVING SPECTRE AND THE LIVING TRIBUNAL ACCESS TO THE POWER WITHIN YOU... AND WE'RE USING IT TO RESTORE THE UNIVERSES."

"IN OTHER WORDS..."



"LET THERE BE..."







AS QUICKLY, AS DEFINITELY AS IT
HAD COME TOGETHER... THE UNIVERSE
THAT WAS AN AMALGAM OF TWO
OTHERS BLOWS APART.

ACCESS, A TWIG CAUGHT IN A
HURRICANE, IS BUFFETED
MERCILESSLY, AND HE IS CON-
VINCED THAT THE THOUGHT
CURRENTLY PASSING THROUGH
HIS HEAD IS GOING TO BE HIS LAST.

AND
FRUSTRATION
OVERWHELMS
HIM...

... HE
REALIZES...

... BECAUSE
IT'S REALLY
A LAME
THOUGHT.

THE ALLEY...
THE SAME
FREAKING
ALLEY... I'M
SO SICK OF...



NOT EVEN
WORTH
REPEATING,
REALLY.

AND THEN,
WHEN TO HIS
ASTONISHMENT
HE DOES COME
TO A HALT...

WHAT WE'RE SICK OF
IS BEING PAWNS.

HOW DID
WE WIND UP
HERE?

AWRIGHT!
IT WORKED!
AT LEAST...
PARTIALLY.

WE'RE BACK TO
THE UNIVERSES CO-
EXISTING. NOW IF
WE CAN JUST
SEPARATE...

FIRST
THINGS
FIRST.
WHERE
ARE THE
OTHERS?

I'M NOT
SURE.



THE MOLE MAN AND HIS MINIONS ARE ENORMOUSLY CONFUSED. BLIND BY NATURE, BEFUPLED BY CIRCUMSTANCES, THERE'S ONE THING THEY DO UNDERSTAND...

...AND THAT THING IS A CHALLENGE.

MOLE MAN. SO YOU SURVIVED THIS INSANITY, DID YOU?

THAT'S MORE OF AN ACCOMPLISHMENT THAN YOU WILL ACHIEVE, HULK!

THIS CAVE IS PLEASING TO US... AND I THINK YOU WOULD BE WELL SERVED TO LEAVE!

NOW!

OH, IS THAT WHAT YOU THINK?

WELL...

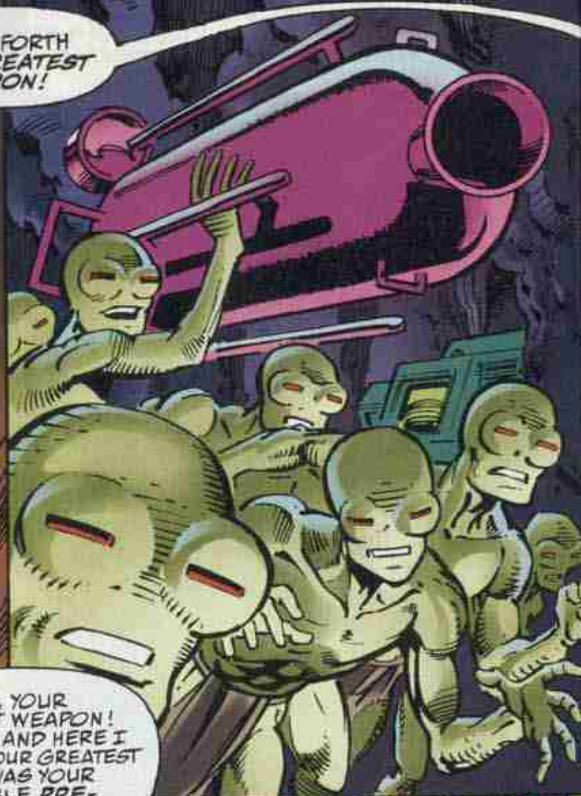
...HERE'S A PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS.





BRING FORTH
OUR GREATEST
WEAPON!

OOOH, YOUR
GREATEST WEAPON!
A BIG GUN! AND HERE I
THOUGHT YOUR GREATEST
WEAPON WAS YOUR
INCREDIBLE PRE-
DICTABILITY!



OKAY!
THAT'S MORE
THAN ENOUGH
OF THAT!

THIS PLACE
HAPPENS TO BELONG
TO AN ASSOCIATE OF
MINE... SO I'LL THANK
YOU PEOPLE TO VACATE
IMMEDIATELY.



NOW THERE'S
SOMEONE I NEVER
EXPECTED TO BE
HAPPY TO SEE!







WHILE, A UNIVERSE AWAY,
RIGHT NEXT DOOR,
BEINGS OF COSMIC PRO-
PORTIONS COMPARE NOTES...

THE UNIVERSES
ARE MOMENTARILY
SAFE... STILL DISTINCT...
BUT OVERLAPPING!

THE UNLEASHED
ENERGIES HAVE PLACED
KEY PLAYERS IN
DIFFERENT ENVIRONS
THAN BEFORE.

BUT IT IS NOTHING
SHORT OF MIRACULOUS
THAT THEY EXIST AT
ALL.

WE HAVE ONLY DELAYED THE
INEVITABLE. THE BROTHERS
MUST BE RECONCILED... THE
BROTHERS MUST BE WILL-
ING TO COEXIST... THE
BROTHERS...

KRAKOOOM!

THE
BROTHERS...
MUST BE
ANGRY...



THROUGHOUT HIS EXISTENCE,
THE SPECTRE HAS BEEN
MASTER OF MANY THINGS.
SPACE AND TIME,
GODLIKE POWER...

BUT WITH HIS COMMENT AS
TO THE BROTHERS' STATE
OF MIND, HE HAS MASTERED
SOMETHING NEW:

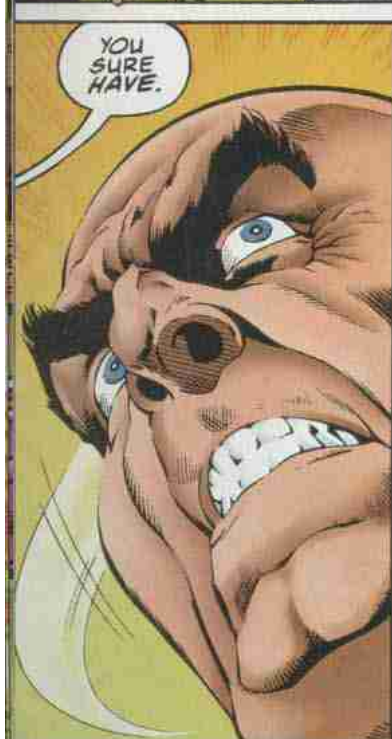
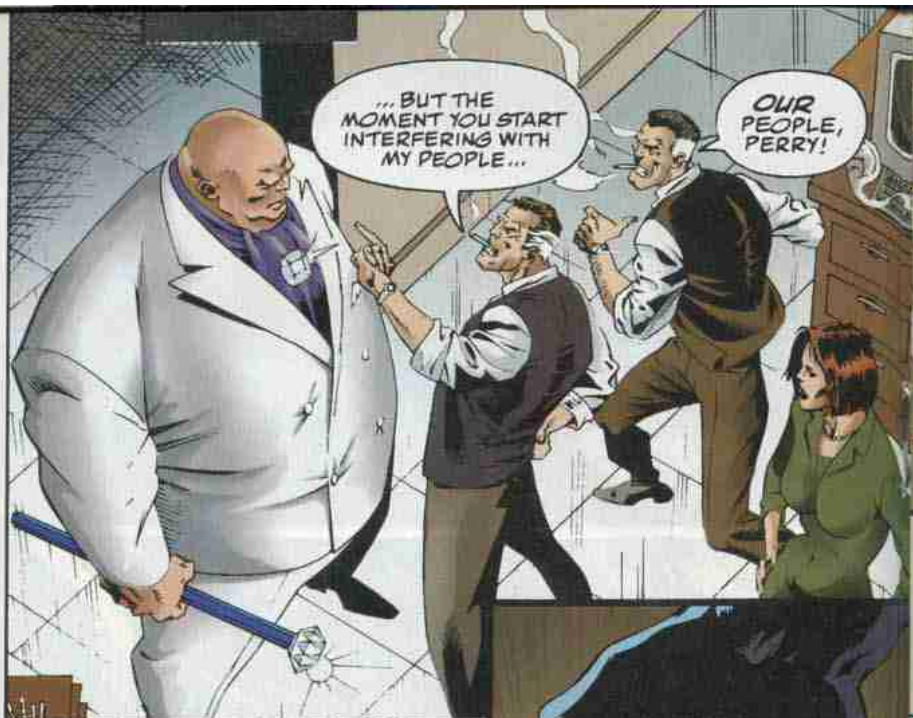
UNDERSTATEMENT.

POWER IS UNLEASHED THAT
NONE HAVE EVER WITNESSED...

... AND THE SPECTRE AND
THE LIVING TRIBUNAL
ARE AWED.



LORD OVER THE CORPORATE MACHINATIONS OF THE DAILY PLANET ALL YOU WANT...







WHERE
IS
HE?!

WHERE
HAS DARKSEID
HIDDEN
HIMSELF?

BUT I CAN'T STAND
BY AND LET YOUR
TUSSELE
BRING
THE CITY
DOWN AROUND
INNOCENT PEOPLE'S
SKULLS.

UNHHH!

AND WHY
DOES HE WASTE
MY TIME WITH
FOOLS SUCH AS
YOU?

CAN'T SAY
I CARE WHAT
YOU DO TO LOBO,
THANOS.

IT'LL BE
A COLD DAY IN
HELL BEFORE
I NEED YOUR
HELP, YA
PUNY
BASTICH!

THEN
IT JUST GOT
PRETTY
CHILLY DOWN
BELOW!

"DOWN
BELOW"? DOLT!
THIS SPHERE
IS HELL ENOUGH
FOR ANY!



THANOS!

DID YOU TRULY
THINK TO HIDE FROM THE
LORD OF APOKOLIPS?

IF YOU ARE
SO "ENAMORED"
OF DEATH...
PREPARE TO
EMBRACE HER!



MEANTIME,
IN CENTRAL
PARK...

...THOSE WHO
HAD RELUC-
TANTLY BEEN AT
EACH OTHER'S
THROATS...



...FIND SUDDEN
AND BLESSED
RELIEF IN
JOINING
FORCES...



...HOWEVER
TEMPORARY
THAT RELIEF
MIGHT BE.



AND...

FOR
ODIN! FOR
ASGARD!

STAND DOWN AND
SURRENDER!



THERE'S
FIRE IN YOU. I
LIKE THAT.

I'LL
DESTROY
IT, BUT I
LIKE
IT.



APPARENTLY
YOU MUST
HAVE THE FOLLY
OF YOUR
RESISTANCE
EMPHASIZED
TO YOU!

HAVE
AT THEE,
THEN!

TWENTY BLOCKS
AWAY, WINDOWS
SHATTER.



TEN MILES AWAY,
ZOO ANIMALS
ROAR.

HALF A WORLD
AWAY,
CHILDREN
WAKE UP
SCREAMING...



...THE LATTER
A COMMON
OCCURRENCE
WHEN A BATTLE
INVOLVES--



THESE
OAFS ARE BUT
TEMPORARY
BARRIERS TO
OUR FINAL
BATTLE!

--DARKSEID!
DO NOT THINK
I'VE FORGOTTEN
YOU!

MY HAMMER
...WHERE...?

HERE.

AND THEN...
FINALLY...
FINALLY...

...IT BEGINS.

THANK
Y--

HOLD
ON. HOW
DID--?

OR, MORE
PRECISELY...

...IT
ENDS.

IS... IS WHAT
I THINK IS
HAPPENING...
HAPPENING?

AYE.
THE SKY
IS...

...BLEEDING.



WE HAVE TO STOP THEM!

NO WAY! DON'T YOU GET IT? I DIDN'T BELIEVE IN ANY KIND OF GOD OR GODS UNTIL THIS... AND NOW YOU WANT ME TO GO ARGUE WITH SOME?!



YOU MUST BE NUTS!



YOU JUST GET US THERE WE'LL DO THE REST.

OH, AND AREN'T WE MR. CONFIDENT?



AWRIGHT, AWRIGHT... JUST POINT THOSE CREEPY BLANK EYE-BALLS SOMEWHERE ELSE, OKAY?

I'M GONNA REGRET THIS.



FOR A MOMENT, BATMAN AND
CAPTAIN AMERICA FEEL NOTHING
... AND THEN ...

AND BEFORE THEM, THEY SEE
EXACTLY AS MUCH AS THEIR
MINDS WILL ALLOW THEM TO
GRASP. SOMETHING THAT
REPRESENTS THE BAREST
FRAGMENT OF THE REALITY,
OR UNREALITY, THAT
FACES THEM.

...THEY
CONTINUE
TO FEEL IT.

WE'RE IN
BETWEEN. IT'S NOT
A GEOGRAPHIC PLACE
... IT'S MORE A STATE
OF CONSCIOUS-
NESS.

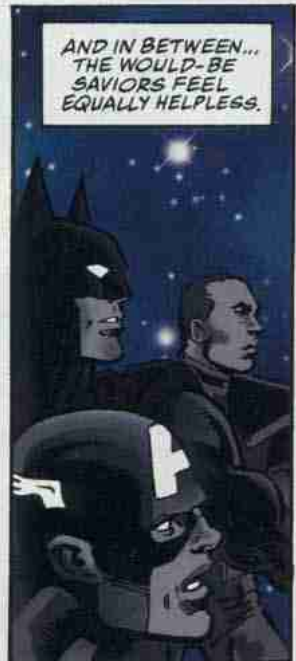
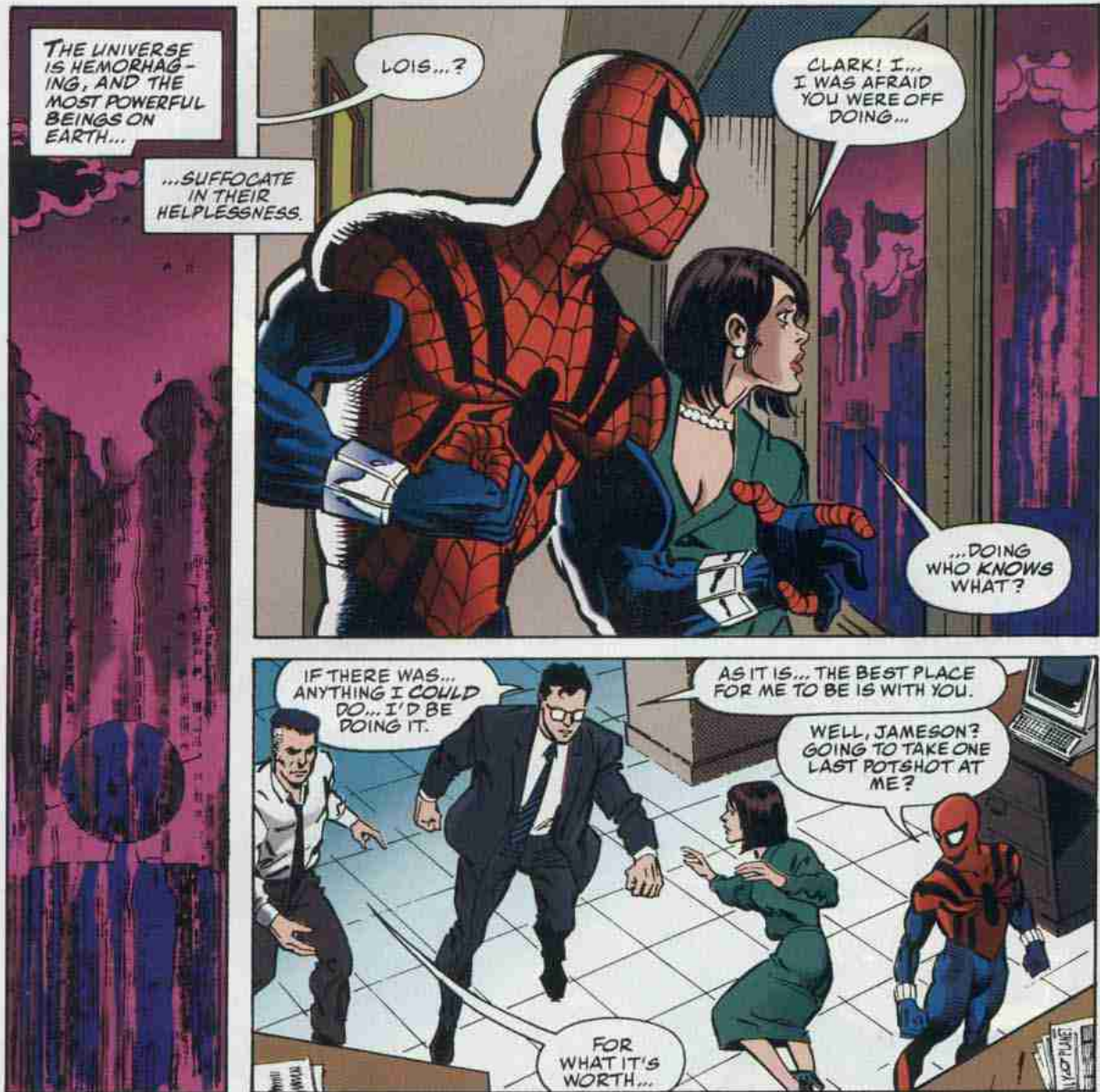
I DON'T
UNDERSTAND...

YOU KNOW
"RACIAL MEMORY"?
THOUGHTS AND FEARS
SO INGRAINED THAT
EVERYONE HAS THEM?
FOR THAT MATTER, DID
YOU EVER HAVE
DEJA VU?

WELL...
THIS IS WHERE
ALL THAT COMES
FROM.

SO IT'S REALLY
HAPPENING... BUT
IT'S ALL IN OUR
MINDS.

FOR
SOME
REASON, I'M
COMFORTABLE
WITH THAT.





THOSE
SPECKS ON THE
SWORDS... ARE
THEY...?

YUP. THE SPECTRE
AND THE LIVING TRIBUNAL,
TRYING TO HOLD THE BROTHERS
BACK. FOR ALL THE DIFFERENCE
THEY'RE MAKING.

WE... WE HAVE TO GO
BACK. FORM AN ARMY...

THE SPECTRE'S
MORE POWERFUL
THAN A BILLION
ARMIES, AND YOU
SEE HOW HE'S
FARING.

AND YOU'RE
SAYING THIS IS
ALL SOME
KIND OF COSMIC
"STATE OF
MIND."

BASICALLY,
YEAH.

ALL RIGHT.
THEN WE HAVE
TO CHANGE OUR
MIND.



THEY ARE
WITNESSING
THE END OF
EVERYTHING.

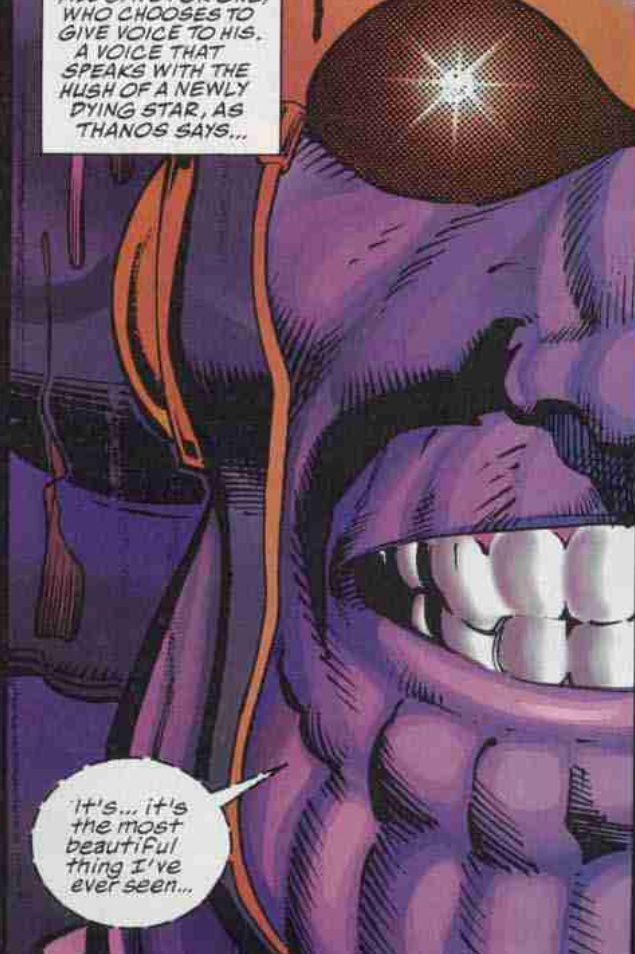
THEIR THOUGHTS,
THEIR FEARS,
HORRORS, REGRETS
... THEY ARE ALL
PRIVATE.



ALL SAVE FOR ONE,
WHO CHOOSES TO
GIVE VOICE TO HIS.
A VOICE THAT
SPEAKS WITH THE
HUSH OF A NEWLY
DYING STAR, AS
THANOS SAYS...



It's... it's
the most
beautiful
thing I've
ever seen...

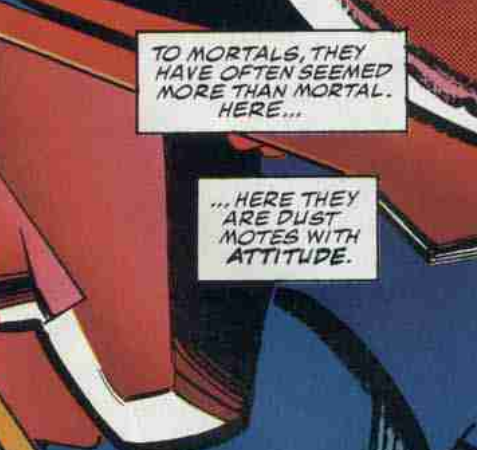




IN THE UNREALITY OF REALITY
THAT SURROUNDS THEM,
CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BATMAN
LEAP TO INTERCEDE.

TO MORTALS, THEY
HAVE OFTEN SEEMED
MORE THAN MORTAL.
HERE...

...HERE THEY
ARE DUST
MOTES WITH
ATTITUDE.



THEY SHOUT. THEY
DEMAND. THEY
PLEAD.



AND,
ULTIMATELY...

...THEY
FAIL.

EVER SINCE HUMANITY
WAS CONCEIVED, IT HAS
SENSELESSLY TRIED TO
DESTROY ITSELF.

AND AT THE LAST
MOMENT, BATMAN
AND CAP UNDER-
STAND WHY.

FOR THE BROTHERS
ULTIMATELY SEEK A
SIMILAR GOAL FOR
THEMSELVES.



THE MORTAL
HEROES SCREAM
AS THEIR VERY
CORES ARE RENT
ASUNDER, AND
THEIR LIVES
FLASH BEFORE
THEIR EYES.



AND AS IT
HAPPENS...

...BEFORE
THE EYES OF
THE BROTHERS
AS WELL.



AND
THEY
SEE...

A CHILD
WITNESSING
HIS PARENTS
GUNNED
DOWN...SWEAR-
ING VEN-
GEANCE...

UNSELFISHLY
DEVOTING HIS
LIFE TO PRO-
TECTING THOSE
WHO CANNOT
PROTECT
THEMSELVES...

FROM THE NOTHING-
NESS OF A BLIGHTED
SOUL, HE FASHIONED
A DARK GUARDIAN
AND JOINED OTHERS
IN BATTLE...

HE BECAME ONE
AMONG MANY...BUT
REMAINED FOR-
EVER UNIQUE.

AND
THEY
SEE...

A YOUNG MAN WITH
WILLING SPIRIT AND
WEAK FLESH, SUB-
JECTING HIMSELF
TO EXPERIMENTS SO
HE CAN FIGHT AGAINST
A GREAT EVIL...

A MAN WHOSE
BATTLE CARRIES HIM
ACROSS DECADES TO
A HARSH, CYNICAL
WORLD THAT NEEDED
HIM EVEN MORE, AND
WAS EVEN LESS WILL-
ING TO ADMIT IT...

HE FOUND NEW
ENEMIES... AND
NEW ALLIES...

HE BECAME ONE
AMONG MANY...
BUT REMAINED
FOREVER UNIQUE.



AND THE BROTHERS
LOOK AT EACH OTHER
... AS IF TRULY SEEING
EACH OTHER FOR THE
FIRST TIME.

CENTURIES
... EONS
PASS...

... AS THE BROTHERS
COME TO THE SLOW
REALIZATION THAT
THEY WHO ENCOMPASS
THE WHOLE OF REALITY...

... HAVE BECOME
SMALLER THAN
THE SMALLEST
OF THEIR
COMPONENTS.

AND A BILLION,
BILLION YEARS
HENCE, THE
BROTHERS...

...FOR THE FIRST
TIME IN RECORDED
AND UNRECORDED
HISTORY...

...SPEAK.

AND THEY
SAY THE
SAME THING.

YOU'VE
DONE
WELL.

A BILLION BILLION
YEARS HAVE ROLLED
BACK UPON
THEMSELVES.

THE STATUS QUO
HAS BEEN RESTORED.

THE UNIVERSES
ARE SEPARATE
ONCE MORE.

DAILY PLANET

THE SUPERBEINGS OF
BOTH WORLDS DO NOT
FULLY UNDERSTAND
WHAT HAS HAPPENED.

SOME DO NOT CARE,
MOURNING THEIR LOSSES
RATHER THAN CELEBRATING
THEIR SALVATION.

SOME WHO HAVE
HAD CONGRESS
WITH GODS SEEK
ANSWERS.

SOME WHO
ARE GODS
HAVE NONE
TO GIVE.

SOME WHO CONSIDER
THEMSELVES RULERS
MUSE HOW LIMITED
THEIR "KINGDOMS"
ARE.

AND
TWO...

...TWO HAVE A FAINT
GLIMMERING OF THE
TRUTH... AND ARE
HUMBLED BY IT.



AND THERE IS
ONE WHO KNOWS
THE WHOLE
TRUTH.

THE TRUTH OF
THE BROTHERS'
REALIZATION
THAT THEIR
CREATIONS HAD
SURPASSED
THE CREATORS
THEMSELVES.



HE KNOWS... AND
REJECTS IT ALL.

FOR HE HAS ALWAYS
CONSIDERED HIM-
SELF A SEEKER OF
TRUTH.

THAT TRUTH...
AND MANY
MORE BESIDES...



AND IF HE HAS
FOUND IT,
THEN HIS LIFE
NO LONGER
HAS PURPOSE.



SO HE REJECTS THE
PRIZE IN FAVOR OF
THE QUEST. FOR HIS
IS THE POWER OF
ACCESS...



...AND
UNIVERSES
BECKON.

AND WHEN
UNIVERSES
BECKON...

...WHICH
OF US
COULD
SAY NO?

The End

REAL NAME: Ron Marz

OTHER CURRENT ALIASES: Just Ron Marz, okay?

DUAL IDENTITY: Not applicable

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Comic-book writer currently on GREEN LANTERN, SUPERBOY (upcoming), BATMAN VS. ALIENS (upcoming)

FORMER OCCUPATIONS: Writer on SILVER SURFER, "StormWatch"

PLACE OF BIRTH: Kingston, NY

MARITAL STATUS: Married

USUAL BASE OF OPERATIONS: Vast mountain retreat in Woodstock, NY

CURRENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP: Wednesday Night Volley Ball League

SUPERHUMAN POWERS: Ability to write while being a parent

SOURCE OF POWERS: Overactive imagination

SPECIAL SKILLS: Diaper changing

WEAPONS: Vicious spike, rapier wit

FIRST APPEARANCE: November 17, 1965

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

THE WRITERS

REAL NAME: Peter David

OTHER CURRENT ALIASES: Sherlock, Pad, Professor Prolific

That Little @#!*%!, Cuddles

DUAL IDENTITY: Publicly known only to him

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Writer of stuff, including AQUAMAN, SUPERGIRL, INCREDIBLE HULK, "Space Cases" (Saturdays on Nickelodeon)

FORMER OCCUPATIONS: Direct sales manager, Marvel Comics, busboy

PLACE OF BIRTH: Fort Meade, MD

MARITAL STATUS: Married

USUAL BASE OF OPERATIONS: The subconscious of humanity

CURRENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP: Writer's Guild of America, Comic Book Professionals Association, FOE

SUPERHUMAN POWERS: Mutant ability to make people in 3-foot radius think they owe him money

SOURCE OF POWERS: Pureness of heart

SPECIAL SKILLS: Types 110 words per minute

WEAPONS: Shotgun mouth

FIRST APPEARANCE: September 23, 1956

REAL NAME: Dan Jurgens

OTHER CURRENT ALIASES: Also answers to the name "Daddy"

DUAL IDENTITY: Public

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Comic-book writer/penciller for TEEN TITANS (upcoming), writer for SUPERMAN, "Riftworld" with Stan Lee (upcoming)

FORMER OCCUPATIONS: Penciller on SUPERMAN, writer/penciller for JUSTICE LEAGUE AMERICA, SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN

PLACE OF BIRTH: Ortonville, MN

MARITAL STATUS: Married

USUAL BASE OF OPERATIONS: Fortress of Solitude on frozen tundra in Twin Cities area

CURRENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP: Bruce Avenue All-Stars

SUPERHUMAN POWERS: Getting into trouble, driving editors nuts

SOURCE OF POWERS: Caffeine (in heavy doses), wonderful vibes from comics industry

SPECIAL SKILLS: Graphic design, radio announcing skills

WEAPONS: #2 lead pencil

FIRST APPEARANCE: June 27, 1959

ABOUT THE AUTHORS THE PENCILLERS

REAL NAME: Claudio Castellini

OTHER CURRENT ALIASES: Unknown

DUAL IDENTITY: Not applicable

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Penciller of SILVER SURFER: DANGEROUS ARTIFACTS (upcoming)

FORMER OCCUPATIONS: FANTASTIC FOUR UNLIMITED, COSMIC POWERS UNLIMITED.

In Italy: co-creator of "Nathan Never," and former penciller of "Dylan Dog"

PLACE OF BIRTH: Rome, Italy

MARITAL STATUS: Single

USUAL BASE OF OPERATIONS: Rome, Italy

CURRENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP: Unknown

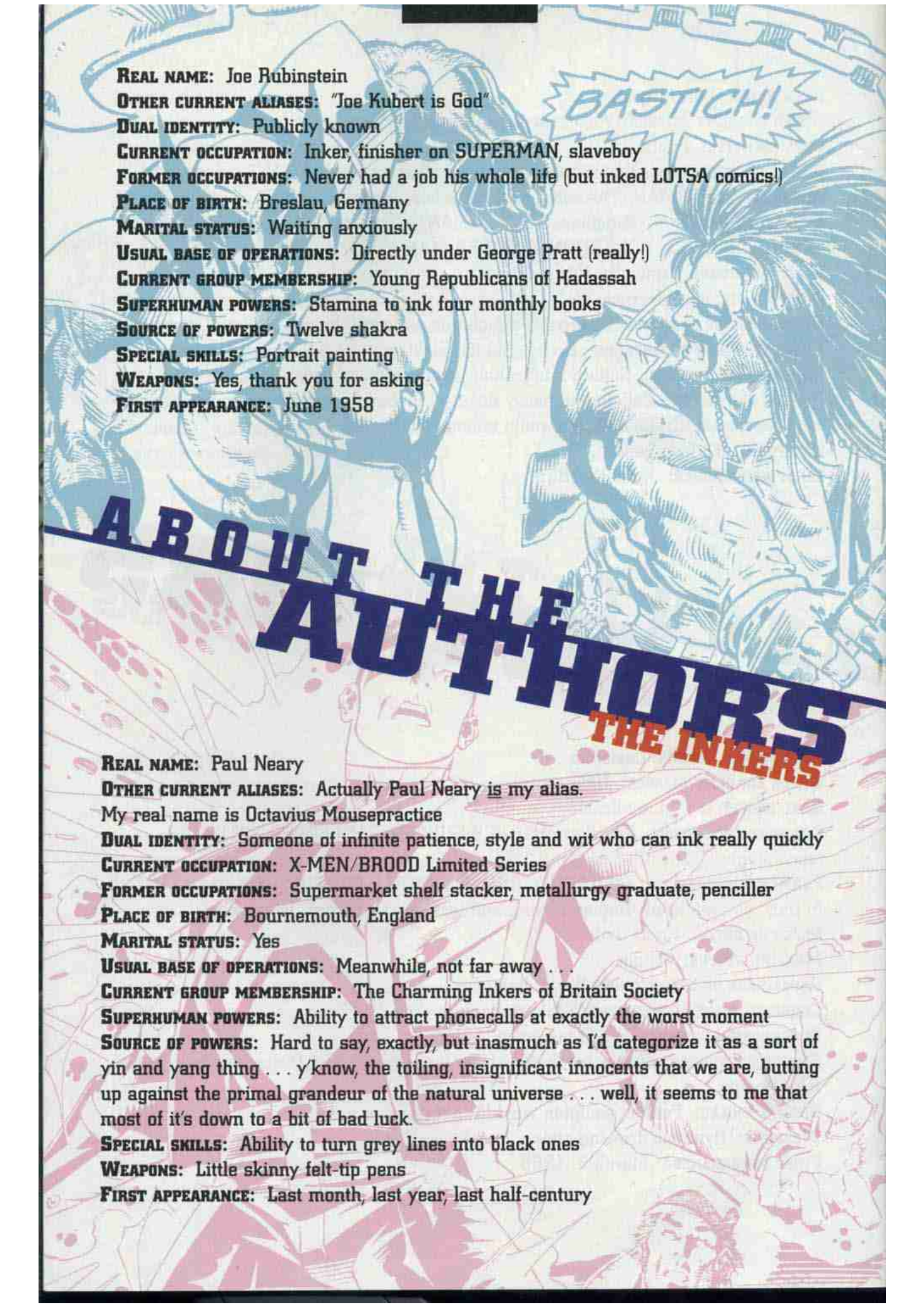
SUPERHUMAN POWERS: Pencil magician

SOURCE OF POWERS: Draws inspiration from the work of John Buscema, Neal Adams, John Romita

SPECIAL SKILLS: Painter, sculptor, vinyl kit nut

WEAPONS: Dynamic drawing style

FIRST APPEARANCE: March 3, 1966



REAL NAME: Joe Rubinstein
OTHER CURRENT ALIASES: "Joe Kubert is God"
DUAL IDENTITY: Publicly known
CURRENT OCCUPATION: Inker, finisher on SUPERMAN, slaveboy
FORMER OCCUPATIONS: Never had a job his whole life (but inked LOTSA comics!)
PLACE OF BIRTH: Breslau, Germany
MARITAL STATUS: Waiting anxiously
USUAL BASE OF OPERATIONS: Directly under George Pratt (really!)
CURRENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP: Young Republicans of Hadassah
SUPERHUMAN POWERS: Stamina to ink four monthly books
SOURCE OF POWERS: Twelve shakra
SPECIAL SKILLS: Portrait painting
WEAPONS: Yes, thank you for asking
FIRST APPEARANCE: June 1958

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

THE INKERS

REAL NAME: Paul Neary
OTHER CURRENT ALIASES: Actually Paul Neary is my alias.
My real name is Octavius Mousepractice
DUAL IDENTITY: Someone of infinite patience, style and wit who can ink really quickly
CURRENT OCCUPATION: X-MEN/BROOD Limited Series
FORMER OCCUPATIONS: Supermarket shelf stacker, metallurgy graduate, penciller
PLACE OF BIRTH: Bournemouth, England
MARITAL STATUS: Yes
USUAL BASE OF OPERATIONS: Meanwhile, not far away . . .
CURRENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP: The Charming Inkers of Britain Society
SUPERHUMAN POWERS: Ability to attract phonecalls at exactly the worst moment
SOURCE OF POWERS: Hard to say, exactly, but inasmuch as I'd categorize it as a sort of yin and yang thing . . . y'know, the toiling, insignificant innocents that we are, butting up against the primal grandeur of the natural universe . . . well, it seems to me that most of it's down to a bit of bad luck.
SPECIAL SKILLS: Ability to turn grey lines into black ones
WEAPONS: Little skinny felt-tip pens
FIRST APPEARANCE: Last month, last year, last half-century



VERSUS

MARVEL COMICS

ROUND FOUR

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president

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publisher

JIM SOKOLOWSKI
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executive editor

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VIRGINIA ROMITA
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vp-manufacturing operations

ALISON GILL
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CHRIS DUFFY
assistant editor

JOE ORLANDO
vp-creative director

TOM BALLOU
vp-advertising

BRUCE BRISTOW
vp-sales & marketing

PATRICK CALDON
vp-finance & operations

TERRI CUNNINGHAM
managing editor

CHANTAL D'AULNIS
vp-business affairs

LILLIAN LASERSON
vp & general counsel

BOB ROZAKIS
executive director-production